

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 00569 311010Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0331

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

UNCLAS PRETORIA 0569

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH, PDEV, PINT

SUBJECT: RHODEISA: INTERNAL TALKS

REF: CAPE TOWN 136

1. REPORTS FROM RHODESIA SAY THAT SMITH, SITHOLE AND
CHIRAU MET ON JANUARY 30 FOR TWO HOURS AND ARE SCHEDULED
TO MEET AGAIN TODAY, JANUARY 31. SABC COMMENTARY SAID
THAT MUZOREWA HAS BEEN INVITED TO RETURN TO THE TALKS
AND PROBABLY WOULD DO SO. IN A PRESS INTERVIEW IWHT A
LOCAL PAPER, MUZOREWA DID NOT RULE OUT HIS RETURN, SAYING
THAT "IF WE RESUME TALKS, IT WILL ONLY BE BECAUSE WE
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MUST TOLERATE MORE OF THESE INSULTS TO END SUFFERING,
TORTURE, MURDER AND MESSACRES GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY
NOW." A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT
NO APOLOGY WILL BE GIVEN TO MUZOREWA AS HE DEMANDED
(REFTEL) BUT THAT THE DOOR WAS OPEN FOR HIM TO RETURN.

2. REPORTS ALSO INDICATE A HARSH EXCHANGE BETWEEN

MUZOREWA, CHIRAU AND SITHOLE. SITHOLE IS QUOTED BY ONE ACCOUNT SAYING HE WOULD CONTINUE THE TALKS WITHOUT MUZOREWA BECAUSE THE BISHOP HAD LEFT FOR "PERSONAL ISSUES, BUT (NOT) NATIONAL ONES. WE ARE HERE TO STOP THE PRESENT WAR, TO ESTABLISH MAJORITY RULE... TO TRANSFER POWER... TO ESTABLISH AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT... AND TO SPEED UP THE VARIOUS CONSTITUTIONAL EXERCISES... NOT TO RESOLVE PERSONAL ISSUES." WITH CHIRAU, SITHOLE ISSUED A STATEMENT SAYING HARSH WORDS AND STRONG FEELINGS ARE TO BE EXPECTED, BUT MUZOREWA'S UANC "HAS GIVEN AS MUCH AS IT HAS RECEIVED." MUZOREWA, IN TURN, TOLD AN INTERVIEWER THAT IT WAS " DESPICABLE BEHAVIOR" THAT SITHOLE AND CHIRAU WERE " REJOICING THAT THE UANC HAS BEEN INSULTED BY A WHITE MAN. I KNOW THERE ARE UNCLE TOMS AMONGST US, BUT I STILL FIND IT SHOCKING THAT THEY CAN BE SO CHEAP."

3. N A FURTHER DEVELOPMENT, THE SABC RADIO NEWS ON JANUARY 31 CITED AS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT A STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG THAT THE U.S. MUST GIVE " SERIOUS CONSIDERATION" TO ANY SETTLEMENT REACHED BY THE INTERNAL PARTIES.H
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